

Town of La Pointe
Special Town Board Meeting
2015 Budget Workshop
Thursday, October 23rd, 2014
5:00 pm at the Town Hall
Approved Minutes

Present: Greg Nelson, Michael Childers, Marty Curry, Jim Patterson

Absent: Ham Ross

Others present: Pete Clark, Barb Nelson, Glenn Carlson

1. Call to order at 5:04pm

2. Budget Workshop with each of the following departments:

A. General Government: Presented by Administrative Assistant Barb Nelson. Main discussion began with changes from the 2014 budget to the 2015 budget that were different. Items included increase in publishing costs (\$3200) due to four new ordinances that need to go to General Code and be processed into our Code. Additional \$2500 to update the website, legal fees in General Government are down because they are being allocated to other departments, and \$2,600 for a winter entrance at Town Hall. Most other expenses are set due to wages, insurances, election, licensing, auditor (though did discuss whether there is a need for an Island reassessment), and regular Town Hall expenses.

Other discussion included room/ accommodation tax (Town to use 30% of the 1.5% for tourism related infrastructure. Questions have arisen on what qualifies as such), W. Anderson health and life insurance, debt service expirations, installing the generator at Town Hall (whether it will be needed if things go forward with Alternative Energy Committee and solar possibilities with a micro-grid), and the need for more revenues from Big Bay Town Park with possibly adding a small parking fee or sticker sales.

Revenues are mostly formulas from the state, liquor licensing (we get the maximum allowed), and the Cell Tower lease.

The need for a Special Town Meeting due to the increase in highway expenditures was discussed. The 2014 highway budget was 435,000, with the Townspeople approving a total of 480,000, but it looks like a total of 523,000 will be expended. Will need approval of Townspeople then will need to figure out where the money comes from (may need to borrow because not much left in other departments budgets either).

B. Follow up from previous workshops: B. Nelson brought up some of the things that have not yet been added to budget worksheets yet for 2015. Those items include funding if the Town decides to take over Big Arn's Road, Harbor requests, Rice Street extension, the County exemption the Town has applied for, uniforms for Park employees, expenses due to things with M. Mattingly, alarm system in the fire hall, replacement costs if the Town has to borrow money to offset the increase in highway expenditures, law enforcement review panel budget, propane tank purchases, updating the emergency plan, and an employee safety plan.

3. Schedule Budget Meetings: will be on the agenda at the next Regular Town Board Meeting, on October 28, 2014.

4. Adjourn at 6:58pm

Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk. Approved as submitted, Regular Town Board Meeting November 11, 2014. MM.